

# LICENSING PANEL

Friday, 14 June 2024

Present: Councillor A Hodson (Chair)  
Councillors S Bennett E Tomeny  
B Hall

## 1 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Panel were asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in connection with any application on the agenda and state the nature of the interest.

No such declarations were made.

## 2 HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE APPLICATION - PEUGEOT EXPERT E7, REGISTRATION NUMBER SJ56 MDU

The Director of Law and Corporate Services submitted a report for the Licensing Panel to consider an application to license a Peugeot Expert E7, registration number SJ56 MDU as a Hackney Carriage Vehicle, outside of the current criteria for licensing Hackney Carriage Vehicles.

The Licensing Manager reminded Members that new criteria had been agreed by the Regulatory and General Purposes Committee on the 13 June 2024. The new criteria stated that vehicles seeking the grant of a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence must have been compliant with Euro 5 emission standards at the date of first registration, which replaced the age restrictions on vehicles.

The vehicle was first licensed on 15 September 2008 and the most recent licence expired on 31 March 2023. The date of first registration was 2 October 2006.

The vehicle had been examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations and the MOT and Compliance Pass certificates had been provided to Members. Members were advised that during the examination, the vehicle had been identified as being compliant with Euro 3 emission standards at the time of first registration and was therefore outside of the new criteria.

The proprietor of the vehicle attended the meeting, along with his representative, with the vehicle which Members of the Panel inspected.

Submissions were made to the Licensing Panel that there were exceptional circumstances that had resulted in the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence not being renewed in March 2023. Members were asked to give consideration to these circumstances and the fact that the vehicle would have continued to be licensed should circumstances have been different.

**Resolved – That the application to license the Peugeot Expert E7, registration number SJ56 MDU, as a Private Hire Vehicle be granted for six months. The licence was subject to internal improvements being completed and then inspected by an officer. It was also resolved that any renewal of the licence must be brought before the Licensing Panel for determination.**

3 **PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE MERCEDES-BENZ E220, REGISTRATION NUMBER DF71 FRK.**

The Director of Law and Corporate Services submitted a report for the Licensing Panel to consider a request to grant an exemption from the requirement to display Private Hire Vehicle Licence plates and door signs in respect of a currently licensed vehicle, Mercedes-Benz E220, registration number DF71 FRK.

It was a legal requirement that when a Private Hire Vehicle Licence was granted, the council must issue a plate or disc identifying that vehicle as a Private Hire Vehicle.

The vehicle was first licenced on 25 October 2023, with the current licence due to expire on 24 October 2024. The date of first registration was 7 October 2019. The proprietor of the vehicle had a Private Hire Driver Licence and a Private Hire Operator Licence and was seeking to use the vehicle to provide an executive transport service.

The applicant attended the meeting with the vehicle which the Licensing Panel inspected.

**Resolved – That the application to request an exemption from the requirements to display Private Hire Vehicle Licence plates and door signs in respect of the Mercedes-Benz E220, registration number DF71 FRK, be granted, subject to the following conditions.**

- **All bookings must be made at least 24 hours in advance.**
- **Payment for all bookings must be requested through an invoicing system.**
- **The operator must communicate with customers for each booking taken, by text or email, with the following information:**

- Private Hire Driver name
- Private Hire Driver photograph
- Private Hire Driver badge number
- Private Hire Vehicle registration number

**For the avoidance of doubt, the above conditions also apply in respect of drivers and vehicles undertaking work for bookings subcontracted to other private hire companies.**

**4 PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE APPLICATION PEUGEOT 207, REGISTRATION NUMBER KR13 JUH**

The Director of Law and Corporate Services submitted a report for the Licensing Panel to consider an application to license a Peugeot 207, registration number KR13 JUH as a Private Hire Vehicle, outside of the criteria for Licensing Private Hire Vehicles.

The vehicle had been examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations and the MOT and Compliance Pass certificates had been provided to Members.

The proprietor of the vehicle and his wife attended the meeting with the vehicle which Members of the Panel inspected.

**Resolved – That the application to licence the Peugeot 207, registration number KR13 JUH, as a Private Hire Vehicle be refused.**

**5 EXEMPT INFORMATION - EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Resolved - That, under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to that Act. The Public Interest Test had been applied and favoured exclusion.**

**6 PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE APPLICATION (JB)**

The Director of Law and Corporate Services submitted a report for Members to consider whether JB should be granted a Private Hire Driver Licence.

JB attended the meeting and made representations in respect of the application. JB responded to questions from Members of the Panel and the legal advisor to the Panel.

Members gave due consideration to the representations made and exercised their rights to consider each case on its individual merits in light of the representations made.

**Resolved – That JB’s application for a Private Hire Driver Licence be granted.**

7 **PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE APPLICATION (KS)**

The Director of Law and Corporate Services submitted a report for Members to consider whether KS should be granted a Private Hire Driver Licence.

KS attended the meeting and made representations in respect of the application. KS responded to questions from Members of the Panel and the legal advisor to the Panel.

Members gave due consideration to the representations made and exercised their rights to consider each case on its individual merits in light of the representations made.

**Resolved – That KS’s application for a Private Hire Driver Licence be granted.**

8 **PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE REVIEW (GA)**

The Director of Law and Corporate Services submitted a report for Members to consider whether GA was a fit and proper person to continue to hold a Private Hire Driver Licence.

GA attended the meeting and his representative made representations in respect of the application. GA and his representative responded to questions from Members of the Panel and the legal advisor to the Panel.

Members gave due consideration to the representations made and exercised their rights to consider each case on its individual merits in light of the representations made.

**Resolved – That GA’s Private Hire Driver Licence be revoked with immediate effect.**

9 **PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE REVIEW (YD)**

The Director of Law and Corporate Services submitted a report for Members to consider whether YD was a fit and proper person to continue to hold a Private Hire Driver Licence.

YD attended the meeting and made representations in respect of the application. YD responded to questions from Members of the Panel and the legal advisor to the Panel.

Members gave due consideration to the representations made and exercised their rights to consider each case on its individual merits in light of the representations made.

**Resolved – That:**

- 1) YD be allowed to continue to hold a Private Hire Driver Licence**
- 2) YD must successfully complete the NVQ Level 2 in Road Passenger Transport VRQ**
- 3) YD be issued with a written warning from the Licensing Panel in respect of his future conduct and driving standards.**